ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH, GOVERNOR RENEE CIPRIANO, DIRECTOR

(217) 524-1663

June 28, 2005

Mr. Bill Bolen
Chief, Response Section II
Emergency Response Branch
United States Environmental Protection Agency
77 West Jackson Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Dear Mr. Bolen:

I am requesting the Region 5 Offices of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) assign an On-Scene Coordinator to conduct a time-critical removal assessment and possible removal action at the U.S. Scrap Corporation (U.S. Scrap) site located in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois.

The U.S. Scrap Corporation site is an abandoned debarreling facility that operated as an open dump in the late 1960's and early 1970's. The U.S. Scrap site encompasses approximately 9 acres and is located off of Cottage Grove Avenue near 123rd Street in the southeast region of Chicago. The site is bordered by the Chicago Metropolitan Reclamation District to the east and south, S.G. Keywell Industries to the north and northeast, and the Chicago/Western Indiana Railroad to the west.

In 1985 U.S. EPA responded to a fire that had broken out at the facility. After the fire had been extinguished it was determined that an extensive removal action was needed to minimize the risk posed at the site. A summary of the removal action is summarized in the enclosed attachments.

According to information gathered by Illinois EPA, it appears that the no activities have taken place at the site since 1985. In August 2004, Illinois EPA collected soil, sediment, and water samples from the U.S. Scrap site. In its current state, the site still contains high levels of pesticide and semi-volatile contamination. Although Illinois EPA has collected some data, the site has not been completely characterized and further information will be needed. A summary of past site activities and sample data is attached to this referral.

Mr. Dave Reed from the Office of Site Evaluation will serve as Illinois EPA's contact person for Removal Coordination Activities for this project. It is recommended that U.S. EPA contact Illinois EPA as soon as possible to arrange a site visit. At the site visit, Illinois EPA will be able to share additional data and site information that will assist U.S. EPA in the time-critical removal assessment. Please have your On-Scene Coordinator arrange a meeting with Dave at 217-524-1657 and myself at the above reference phone number as soon as possible to arrange a site visit and discuss future site activities.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to working with U.S. EPA in this and other future removal activities.

Sincerely,

Bruce Everetts
Office of Site Evaluation
Division of Remediation Management
Bureau of Land

cc: Division File, w/ attachments
Dave Reed, OSE, w/o attachments
Neelu Reddy, SSRU, w/o attachments, via e-mail
Linda Nachowicz, U.S. EPA, w/o attachments, via e-mail

US Scrap **Samples collected August 11, 2004**

Lagoon Area Inorganic:

	Water (ug/l)	Sediment/Soil (mg/kg)
Arsenic		19
Boron	2000	
Chromium	50	150
Lead	42	320

Lagoon Area Organic:

	Water (ug/l)	Sediment/Soil (mg/kg)
Garna-Chlordane	4.0	22000
Alpha-Chlordane	2.7	13000
p,p'-DDD		2400
DDT (total)		2400
Acetone	38	
Benzene	41	650
Chloroethane		78
trans-1,2-Dichlorothene		35
MEK	14	
MIBK	11	88
Toluene	22	650
Ethylbenzene	49	650
Xylene (total)	450	21000
Isopropylbenzene	4.7	430
Bis(2-chloroethyl)ether	7.5	
Phenol		990
2-Methylphenol		1100
4-Methylphenol		1200
Acetophenone		640
Isophorone	4.0	
2,4-Dimethylphenol	14	6300
Naphthalene	9.6	6400
2-Methylnaphthalene	3.9	1900
Fluorene	3.2	820
Phenanthrene	17	4700
Anthracene		1500
Di-n-butylphthalate	17	
Fluoranthene	9.4	3600
Pyrene	11	13000
Benzo(a)anthracene	2.2	1700
Chrysene	4.9	5900
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	310	180000
Di-n-octylphthalate	37	7800
Benzo(b)fluoranthene	3.7	7700
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	2.9	3500
Benzo(a)pyrene		2200
Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene		6100
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene		1500
Benzo(ghi)perylene		6600